

REMARKS

The proposed amendments to the claims are directly responsive to the rejections set forth in the final action. Therefore, it is believed that entry of the amendments, though made after final, is proper and does not raise any new issues.

Specifically, it is noted that claims 6-9 were considered allowable and the limitations of claims 6-8 have been inserted into claim 1 (claim 9 is dependent from claim 8). Also indicated allowable was claim 12 and the limitations of that claim have been inserted into claim 1 (claims 13-14 also indicated allowable are dependent from claim 12). As these limitations from allowable claims have been inserted into claim 1, all claims dependent thereon should be considered allowable.

In addition, claim 1 has been amended to resolve the issue under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph and the claims further criticized as having issues under 35 U.S.C. § 112, claims 39, 42-45 and 36-38 have all been canceled.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.*. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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